(iv) Welfare measures have been initiated to rehabilitate the displaced children engaged in carpet weaving and their families by providing non-forml education, health care and alternative job opportunities to thetr parents.

(v) A number of NGOs have been motivated to create awareness amongst the parents through the message that bending children to carpet weaving at an early age will be detrimental to their future prospects.

(vi) Registration cum membership of the Carpet Export Promotion Council has been made compulsory for export of handmade carpets and the Council has been motivated in adopting a self regulatory code of conduct.

(vii) Steps have also been taken up at the diplomatic level through our missions abroad to counter the adverse publicity and also to apprise the governments of these countries of the steps being taken by the Government of India for eradication of child labour in carpet weaving.

In order to boost export of carpets from India, the government through Carpet Export Promotion Council has taken the following steps during 1994-95.

(i) Participaed in DOMOTEX International Trade Fair Hannover.

(ii) Participating in buyer-seller meet in Australia.

(iii) Likely to participate in buyer-seller meet in South Africa and Spain.

(iv) Organised International Carpet Trade Fair in Delhi during February, 1995.

(v) Launching promotional anl publicitf abroad to popularise Indian Carpets.

Impact of GATT agreement on Textile Industry

3486. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the impact of GATT agreement on textile industry in general;

(b) what is the foreign exchange earning per annum in textile industry in India during 1989-93;

(c) what is the expected increase in foreign exchange earnings after GATT agreement;

(d) whether it is ax fact that textile industries are adversely affected due to multinational competition;

(e) if so, what steps Government propose to take to tackle such a situation and

(f) if not, what is the increased percentage and amount of foreign exchange earning in the year 1994?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) The impact of GATT Agreement on textile Industry in general is good:

(b) The export of textiles including handicraft, jute and coir during 1989-90 to 1993-94 had been as follows:

Year	In US Million dollars
1989-90 . . .	4688.63
1990-91 . . .	5524.50
1991-92 .	5796.84
1992-93 . . .	6599.62
1993-94 . .	7973.91

(c) The Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) included in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round, envisages complete integration of the textile sector into tne multilateral framework of

GATT/WTO at the end of a 10 year transition period. By virtue of the provisions of the ATC, all textile exporting countries including India would get greater access in stages in the markets of the importing countries under the MFA. However, because of the back loading of the ATC, a major portion of the benefits is estimated to accrue in the later half of the transition period. At the end of the transition period of 10 years, the quota system will be completely dismantled.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise. However, Government has been taking a number of steps to enhance the competitive ability of our textile and clothing industry so as to enable it to take fuller advantage of increased export opportunities under the quota free regime. The steps taken in this regard include enabling import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production; special arrangements for duty-free import of raw materials for export production; ensuring increased availability of export credit, organising seminars/meetings on ISO/9000 Quality Spetem Standards, encouraging exporters to participate in buyer-seller meets, fairs and exhibitions etc. The export of textiles including handicraft, jute and coir during 1994-95 (upto February '95) amounted to US $ 8999.23 million showing an increase of 26.9% over the performance during the corresponding period of the previous year.

राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम के उद्देश्य

3487. चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह :

क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम ने अब उन उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त कर लिया है जिनके लिए इसकी स्थापना की गई थी ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि नौकरशाहों में व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार तथा उनमें अविवेकपूर्ण निर्णयों के कारण इन उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त नहीं किया जा सका है ?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री जी० वेंकट स्वामी) : (क) से (ग) समय-समय पर अधिग्राहित रूग्ण वस्त्र मिलों को चलाने उनके पुनर्स्थापना उनके आधुनिकीकरण आदि के उद्देश्य से अप्रैल 1968 में एन.टी.सी. को निगमित किया गया था। एनटीसी के अधीन मिलों के आधुनिकीकरण विस्तार आदि के लिए 51 0 करोड़ रु० की राशि का निवश किया गया था। जबकि बाजार यार्न का उत्पादन औसत बिक्री वसूली और निर्यात में वृद्धि हुई है एन.टी.सी. को अप्रचालित मशीनों अपर्याप्त आधुनिकीकरण कार्यशील पूंजी की कमी मानव शक्ति का आधिक्य कम क्षमता उपयोग आदि के कारण घाटे हो रहे हैं। एन.टी.सी. के पुनरुद्धार और आधुनिकीकरण के लिए एक संशोधित सर्वांगीण सुधार नीति सरकार के विचाराधीन है।

Benefits of textile market access agreements signed with and European Union

3488. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to answers to Unstarred Question No. 138 and Unstarred Question No. 1221 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th February, 1995 and the 21st March, 1995 respectively, and state:

(a) the specific benefits expected to be derived from the textile market access agreements signed jth the US and the European Union (EU) by the handloom and powerloom sectors, separately; and

(b) how far these agreements would lead to large-scale textile improve or exports by India?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) As a result of the market access agreements, the handloom and powerloom sectors would get important benefits in the U.S. and the EU countries on account of the following provisions: